



# Parents Reaching Out

*Your One Stop Resource for a Stronger Family*

We are a statewide non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that works with parents, caregivers, educators, and other professionals to promote healthy, positive, and caring experiences for New Mexico families and children. Founded in 1981, we have served New Mexico families for 30 years.

## Our Mission

The mission of Parents Reaching Out is to enhance positive outcomes for families and children in New Mexico through informed decision making, advocacy, education, and resources. Parents Reaching Out provides the networking opportunities for families to connect with and support each other. This mission supports all families including those who have children with disabilities, and others who are disenfranchised. Parents Reaching Out achieves this by:

- Developing family leadership.
- Connecting families to each other.
- Building collaborative partnerships.
- Providing families with knowledge and tools to enhance their power.

### *Parents Reaching Out offers free:*

- **Support and Guidance.** We offer individual help for parents who have concerns about their children's special education programs or need help navigating the health care system. Our parent-to-parent matches provide peer support for families going through similar situations.

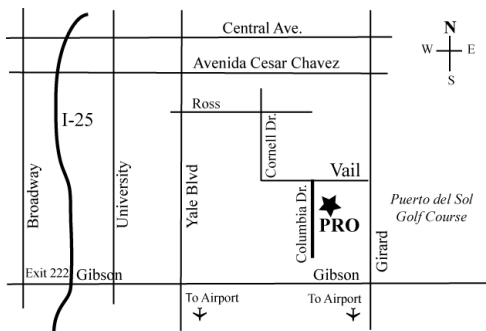
*"Thank you for providing support and a caring attitude to families like ours. We can't tell you how much this means to us." – parent*

- **Information and Resources.** We provide publications and workshops on early intervention, special education, education, parenting, and health care topics for parents and professionals.

*"All the information you provide is priceless to parents." - parent*

- **Leadership Opportunities for Parents.** We mentor parents as they share their family stories with policymakers and future teachers, doctors, and health care professionals. Our parent leaders make a difference in communities throughout the state.

*"Thank you for all you do for our community to advocate for our families and students with special needs." - professional*



**Questions? Do you want more information?**

**Do you want to see how we can help you?**

**Drop by our office, give us a call, or visit our website!**

**1920 B Columbia Dr. SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87106  
(505) 247-0192 • (800) 524-5176  
[www.parentsreachingout.org](http://www.parentsreachingout.org)**

From I-25—take the Gibson Blvd Exit and go East on Gibson. Turn left at the third stop light (Girard). Turn left on the first street—Vail. Go one block to Columbia. Turn left on Columbia. Go a half of a block (past brown apartments). Parents Reaching Out is the concrete building on the left. Welcome!

## Our Beliefs

- Families need support wherever they are in their journey.
- All families care deeply about their children.
- Families need tools and support to accomplish their dreams.
- All families are capable of making informed decisions that are right for their family.
- Families in the state benefit from our organization having the staff and materials that meet their diversity.
- Systems that listen carefully to the family perspective improve outcomes for our children.



*Parents Reaching Out is a network of programs woven together to meet the ever changing needs of families.*

**Special Education** - We are the home of the New Mexico Parent Training and Information Center (NM PTI). We serve families of infants, children, and youth with all types of disabilities as well as related professionals. We help families understand the special education system and the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process so they can make informed decisions, understand IDEA 2004, and effectively advocate for their child. NM PTI is funded by the US Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs and the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED).

**Early Intervention** - Our Dreamcatchers project supports the families of infants and toddlers who are at risk for or have developmental delays, disabilities, or medical conditions through a grant from the New Mexico Department of Health Family Infant Toddler Program (FIT). We help families navigate systems and connect with other parents. We promote the importance of advocacy, record keeping, family perspective, and partnerships with those who provide services to our children.

**Healthcare** - As the New Mexico Family to Family Health Information Center (NM F2FHIC), we serve communities through a grant from the federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau. Our resources build families' capacity to understand the health care system and make informed choices to access quality health care services that best meet their needs.

**Families as Faculty** - This program promotes family leadership and provides professional learning opportunities for future teachers, doctors, and occupational therapists to prepare them to work in partnership with families for systems change. This program is funded by the NM PED, FIT, and the University of New Mexico School of Medicine—Continuum of Care.

**Family Engagement/General Education** - We believe that all families are supported if systems include them in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the service. We help parents get the information and gain the skills they may need in order to support their children's learning and growth and influence systems. We offer information and workshops about parenting, child development, early childhood programs, and transitions (from home to a school and from school to career). We share information about No Child Left Behind and offer tools for building meaningful partnerships that improve academic achievement.

**Resource Center** - Our free lending library includes materials on child development, literacy, disabilities, the law, and much more. Parents Reaching Out publications are available in English and Spanish. We provide information booths for workshops and conferences throughout New Mexico.

**For more information about Parents Reaching Out, please visit our website:  
[www.parentsreachingout.org](http://www.parentsreachingout.org)**



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